

G-2 Report

4-1 227/-L-22

WAR DESS 301EN

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic & Consular Service.

(a) Present Assignment of Diplomatic & Consular Officials.

The following is an editorial which appeared in the "La Prensa", one of the leading daily newspapers in Argentina:

"It is once more being rumoured, and this time with insistence, that the Minister for Foreign Affairs has already drawn up his scheme for the reorganisation of the Consular and Diplomatic Corps, and that the details of the plan may be made public at any moment.

On the day following that on which the present Government assumed the reins of power the same tale was heard and caused considerable alarm amongst its official staffs and even to those members of it who had come here from the most distant countries of the world and were besieging the Casa Rosada for transference to a better climate or to gain the assurance that they would be allowed to retain the posts they were then occupying. And from that time up to the present date although a year and five months have gone by, the Ambassadors, Ministers, Secretaries and Consuls, to the number of 30 or more, have been awaiting, and still await, the audience they have been seeking with the President of the Republic. Meanwhile, they continue to collect their salaries in gold, although they do nothing for them but hang about here in idleness, the duties of their respective posts being discharged by Secretaries, Councillors, or more clerks, in a manner which, as may be supposed, leaves much to be desired.

It would appear that the Government has been striving to handle the diplomatic and commercial relations of the country with the smallest possible staff and to arrange that the Executive Power shall have the direct management of them this being the reason that it displays no concern over the fact that the Embassies of the United States and Mexico, as also the Legations of Cuba and Paraguay, are - as regards the first two - in the hands of Councillors, while a subordinate runs the Legation at Havana, and the Military Attache that of Asuncion, neither of the latter officials possessing the rank required for such positions. The most curious part of the business is that, since the commencement of the present Government's term of office, several legations have had no secretaries, so that in ordinary times the Ministers have themselves to perform the duties of secretaries and even of typists. In spite of that lack, however, there have been, for a year past, more than half a dozen secretaries of different countries to be met with in the corridors of the Foreign Office, where

From: M.A.Argentina Report No.4136 April 8,1930

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic & Consular Service.

(a) Present Assignment of Diplomatic
& Consular Officials (Cont'd).

some of them are for the time being engaged in tutoring the members of the staff who are still new to their duties.

A state of affairs similar to that described above exists also with regard to the Consuls. There are many of these of different grades, and even Consul-Generals, who, far from the scene of their duties, have been haunting the anterooms of the same Ministry for many months, awaiting the threatened reorganisation, while the Consulates of various countries of Europe and America remain in the hands of chancellors or clerks who receive the Consul's pay.

The uneasiness and anxiety that prevail amongst the consular and diplomatic staffs are great, for those staffs understand that the reorganisation in question will not imply a change in the consular regulations which have been in force for four years past and which suffer from glaring defects. They think, too, and assuredly with reason, that neither will it signify a change of method in regard to the diplomatic activities, so that the ministerial efforts may stand a greater chance of success being more in accord with the relations that this country now maintains with the nations abroad. But they are convinced that it is a change in the members of the corresponding staffs that is pending, and that without any reference to ability in the exercise of the duties attached to the respective posts, the only things to be taken into consideration in making the appointments being the degree of party zeal exhibited by the presumptive candidates or the amount of political backing they may boast.

The Government ought to bear in mind that the national honour and its own reputation for sincerity demand that the diplomatic and commercial representatives should possess the proper training and other conditions requisite for the efficient discharge of the duties attached to the posts they are appointed to fill, combined with a precise knowledge of the cultural and economic possibilities of Argentina. "

From: M.A.Argentina

Report No.4136 April 8, 1930

CHIEF OF STAFF
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ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic and Consular Services:

(a) Present Assignment of Diplomatic and Consular Officials.

RECEIVED G-2 W. J. SEP 4 1930

I T A L Y

In 1908 Doctor Gregorio N. Martinez obtained his degree as Doctor of Medicine from the University of Córdoba, his native province.

In 1915 he was appointed Director of the "Asistencia Pública" in Córdoba.

In 1910 and 1918 he represented the University of Medical Science of Córdoba in the Medical Congresses held in Rio de Janeiro. In acknowledgement of his work and ability during that time, he was appointed member of the Medical Academy of Rio de Janeiro.

In 1918 he was appointed Minister of Justice, Culture and Public Instruction for the Government of Córdoba during the legislation of Dr. Borda in that Province.

On July 7, 1930, he was appointed Ambassador to Rome by President Irigoyen replacing Dr. Fernando Perez who has been recalled and placed on the status "awaiting orders."

C. Fleming

From M.A. Argentina

Report No. 4205

August 14, 1930

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
M. C. NELSON

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G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic and Consular Service:

(a) Present Assignment of Diplomatic and Consular Officials.

AS APPOINTED G/2 W. L. NELSON 1930

NETHERLANDS.

Argentine Minister to the Netherlands.

Arturo H. Massa was born in Buenos Aires in 1880 and devoted the early part of his life to agriculture.

In 1904 he was elected "Municipal Intendente" of the City of Lincoln.

He was elected Deputy for the Province of Buenos Aires for the period 1916 and 1920 and has held the position of Director General of Schools.

In 1920 he was appointed vice-consul in Amsterdam.

In 1928 he was consul-general to the Netherlands.

In July, 1930, President Irigoyen appointed him Minister to the Argentine Legation in Holland.


From M.A. Argentina.

Report No. 4206

August 14, 1930.

G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic and Consular Service

(a) Present Assignment of Diplomatic and Consular
Officials.

UNITED STATES.

On September 18th., 1930, Dr. Manuel E. Malbran was appointed Argentine Ambassador to Washington.

Dr. Malbran has been accredited to the following countries; In 1909 he was Secretary to the Legation in Lisboa. From 1911 to 1913 he was in Washington attached to the then Legation as Secretary and later as Chargé d'Affaires. From Washington he went to Venezuela and then to Cuba. In 1919 he was named Minister to the Legation in Mexico and there, in March 1920, the National University presented him with the honorary title of "Honoris causa." He left Mexico on March 27th., 1922, and returned home. In March 1923 he was named member of the delegation to the 5th. Pan American Conference in Chile. At this time he was also named Ambassador to Chile and presented his credentials to that Government on March 17th. 1923. In Chile he remained five years and during a short stay on leave in his country in March 1928 he was named Ambassador to the United States replacing Dr. Honorio Pueyrredon.

Dr. Malbran acted as Argentine Ambassador during the Alvear Administration, and for a brief period after Sr. Irigoyen took office for his second term. He returned to Buenos Aires from the United States about eighteen months ago, and on his arrival here was literally dismissed from the diplomatic service by a Presidential decree declaring him in "disponibilidad."

From L.A. Argentina

Report No. 4223

October 8, 1930.

G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic and Consular Service.

(a) Present Assignment of Diplomatic and Consular Officials.

FRANCE.

On September 24th., 1930, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Government published a decree confirming the appointment of Dr. Tomas Le Breton to the post of Argentine Ambassador in Paris. He replaces Dr. Alvarez de Toledo, the Argentine Ambassador who has resigned.

Dr. Tomás Le Breton was born in Buenos Aires in 1868 and received his secondary education in the Colegio Nacional of that city. For his professional training he entered the Law School of the University of Buenos Aires in 1886, and graduated in 1891 with the degree of Doctor of Laws, presenting a thesis entitled "Patentes de Invencion." This interest for patents and trade-marks was further developed after leaving the University and in due time made him generally recognized as an authority on the subject.

Dr. Le Breton was the Argentine representative at the Industrial Property Congress held in Berlin in 1904. In 1908 he was again delegate for Argentina at the Stockholm Congress for Protection of Artistic and Literary Property. In 1920 he was a Member of the Administrative Commission of Land and Colonies. Long affiliated with the Radical Party, he became one of its prominent figures when elected National Deputy in March, 1914. In the years 1915-18 he was a member of the Finance Committee of the Chamber of Deputies. Among the important measures proposed by him during his term of office were a navigation Bill, a Free Sugar Bill, and a bill for the formation of farmer's cooperative associations. He resigned in order to take up the post of Ambassador to the United States.

After his return from the United States he became Minister of Agriculture, a post which he held until his resignation, on August 31, 1925. His resignation was caused by the President's refusal to intervene in the Government of the Province of Buenos Aires. He then toured Europe, and although he returned to Argentina in 1927, he has lived abroad almost continuously, except for short intervals, since his resignation.

Dr. Le Breton specializes in patent law.

From L.A. Argentina

Report No. 4224

October 8, 1930.

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ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: ~~RECEIVED 2/23/66~~ Diplomatic & Consular Service.

(2) Present Assignment of Diplomatic & Consular Officials.

In our report No.4205, it was stated that Dr. Gregorio Martinez had been appointed as Ambassador at Rome to succeed Dr. Fernando Perez. This, one of the last acts of the late Government, has been cancelled by a decree issued on September 10th by the Provisional Government, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and which also reinstates Dr. Fernando Perez.

With reference to our Report No.4206, which stated that Senor Arturo H. Massa had been appointed Minister to the Netherlands, we advise that this appointment has also been cancelled by the Provisional Government.

In our Current Events for the month of August, Paragraph No.9, we mentioned that Senor Dardo Corvalan Mendilaharsu had been appointed Consul General in Paris. A decree has now been issued by the Provisional Government cancelling this appointment.

For further particulars on the above please see our Report No.4233 of October 21st, 1930.

657-4-75/66

E. Fleming

From: H.A. Argentina

Report No.4231

October 22, 1930.

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G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic & Consular Service.

(b) Current Activities in Foreign Countries.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Ernesto Bosch, has acted very promptly upon the recommendations of the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Horacio Beccar Varela, and has issued a long list of instructions to Argentine consuls abroad regarding their duties. The document issued by the Ministry is far too long to be quoted in extenso, but may be briefly summarised under four heads: Firstly, consuls must in future send all reports specified in the general regulations, as well as those special ones that the Government may at any time demand. Secondly, consuls must answer letters from and give information to merchants and citizens of the Argentine Republic. Thirdly, they must be prepared to furnish to nationals of other States trustworthy information regarding Argentina. Fourthly, using their own judgment they must send to the Foreign Office any data that may be of value to any Government department or to farmers, graziers, industrialists, merchants, or other citizens. Furthermore, the consuls are told very plainly that stale news is not wanted. "The Consul must bear in mind," says the Minister, "that it is very important to proceed with rapidity in compiling and despatching reports; that prompt despatch is often as important as the report itself, and that any delay may take from the news, in part or totally, its value as commercial information".

Finally, the note reminds the consuls that the service, with or without justification, has greatly fallen in public esteem, and that only the officials themselves can restore its prestige. Under the last two or three Administrations, consular posts were often regarded as rewards for political adherents who desired to reside abroad, and there have not been wanting cases in which men of known bad character have been designated to fill important posts. In the case of the rest, with a few honourable exceptions, they have been regarded as mere collectors of fees and affixers of stamps, who did not render any real service to the country.

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G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic and Consular Service

(a) Present Assignment of Diplomatic and Consular Officials.

HOLLAND

On October 3, 1930, the Provisional Government signed a decree appointing Dr. Llambi Campbell as Argentine Minister to Holland. Dr. Llambi Campbell is to fill the vacancy left by Sr. Arturo H. Massa whose appointment was cancelled by the Provisional Government.

Dr. Llambi Campbell's career as a diplomat began in 1901 when he was designated First Secretary to the Argentine Legation in Belgium, a post which he held until 1903 when he was sent to Germany and later to Austria and Hungary. Some years later he held the same posts in the legations of Italy, Switzerland and Belgium, and finally counsellor to the Legation in Holland. From there he was transferred in 1921 to Great Britain and in 1927 he was named Counsellor of the Spanish Embassy. From the last-mentioned country he was newly transferred to London where he has been for two years. At various times he has also acted as Charge d'Affaires in Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland and Brazil.

Dr. Llambi Campbell is a knight of the Order of the Crown of Italy, of the Royal Order of Isabel, the Catholic, knight of the Order of the Crown of Belgium, knight of the Imperial Order of the Sun and of the Lion of Persia, Officer of the Order of Simon Bolivar, etc.

A. Fleming
From L.A. Argentina

Report No. 4262

December 4, 1930.

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NOV 13 3036

G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Diplomatic and Consular Service.

(a) Present Assignment of Diplomatic and Consular Officials.

URUGUAY

On June 25, 1931, Dr. Jose Maria Cantilo presented his credentials as the new Argentine Ambassador to the Uruguayan Republic.

Dr. Cantilo was born in Buenos Aires in 1877. He studied in Paris, dedicating himself to literature, and has been quite successful as a writer. His diplomatic career began in 1906 as Second Secretary of Legation at Rome when ex-President Roque Saenz Peña was Minister. During 1907 he was Chargé d'Affaires in Switzerland and Italy. In 1908 he was first Secretary to the Brazilian Legation and in 1910 Chargé d'Affaires during the time when Argentine relations with Brazil and other South American countries were strained. When Saenz Peña became President he was appointed Secretary of Legation "attached to the Secretary's Office of the Presidency of the Nation". He was next sub-secretary of Foreign Relations. He has also filled the posts of Argentine Minister to Paraguay and to Portugal. In 1928 he represented the Argentine Government at the Council of the International Bureau of Work in Geneva.

From P.A. Argentina

Report No. 4435

October 7, 1931.

Antonio J. G. G.
Clerk:

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTELL. DIV.

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DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet

(b) Present Cabinet.

Shortly after the resignation of the ex-Minister of Finance, Dr. Alberto Hueyo, another vacancy occurred in the Cabinet of President Justo. This was caused by the death of Dr. Antonio de Toma-so, the Minister of Agriculture. His death represents a loss not only to the Cabinet, but to the Independent Socialist Party of which he was a leading figure.

On August 22nd, the new appointments were officially announced: Dr. Federico Pinedo, Minister of Finance, Sr. Luis Duhaui, Minister of Agriculture.

Dr. Federico Pinedo, Minister of Finance.

The statement made in Report No. 4720 to the effect that no radical change in the monetary policy was expected was confirmed with the appointment of Dr. Pinedo. Although he has made no definite statement of policy, it is known that he holds views similar to those of Dr. Hueyo on financial matters.

Although his appointment did not come as a surprise to official circles, there were those who felt that Dr. Pinedo's outstanding ability as a Government spokesman in Congress might prevent him from entering the Cabinet. A brilliant debater, Dr. Pinedo is of exceptional value on the floor of the Chamber of Deputies; and his departure must necessarily prove to be a considerable loss to the debating strength of the Government coalition.

A brief sketch of Dr. Pinedo's career follows:

Dr. Pinedo was born in 1895 and began his political career at an early age, joining the Socialist Party when he was only 18. He joined the Socialists because of his father's power in the Conservative ranks. Realizing that he could not go far in his father's party while his father lived, he determined to lay his own course, not depending upon his father's popularity or name, and rose rapidly to his present position.

When Dr. Pinedo was 20, he was admitted to the bar, and in 1919 when 24, was elected deputy for the Capital. The Chamber refused to sanction his election since he was under age, but the following year, he was again elected and on this occasion became a member of the Parliament for the period 1920 - 24.

From M.A. Argentina Report No. 4743 September 13, 1933

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet.

(b) Present Cabinet.

From the outset he was affiliated with the Committee of the Budget in the Chamber, and thereafter dedicated himself to the study of finance.

Dr. Pinedo was in constant opposition to the National Government previous to the September Revolution and was an ardent supporter of General Uriburu. He later joined the coalition which elected General Justo to power. He was again elected deputy for the capital in 1931, and acted as spokesman for the Coalition until his appointment to the Cabinet.

Sr. Luis Duhau, Minister of Agriculture.

Sr. Duhau has long been prominent in agricultural circles, particularly in the affairs of the Argentine Rural Society. When his appointment was first announced, the local English papers featured the fact that it was he who initiated in this country the slogan "Buy from those who buy from us," primarily intended to favor Great Britain.

Sr. Duhau was born in 1887, and at an early age graduated as an engineer. He was later appointed to the Committee for the Drainage of the Province of Buenos Aires, and in 1910, was the Argentine delegate to the International Irrigation Congress. For the period 1927 - 29, he was a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank of the Nation. However, his greatest popularity was achieved as chairman of the Argentine Rural Society. It was shortly after his appointment to this latter post that he made a trip to the United States to assist at the Pan American Commercial Congress. He also visited Canada and made a careful study of the grain elevator system in existence there.

In 1931, Sr. Duhau was elected National Deputy representing the National Democratic Party of the Province of Buenos Aires, a post which he renounced to fill the vacancy in the Cabinet.

Edmund S. Sharp
Cap 103MA
From M.A. Argentina

Report No. 4743 September 13, 1933.

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ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet

(b) Present Cabinet.

Resignation of Minister of Marine.

In the early part of last month, the Minister of Marine, Vice-Admiral Pedro S. Casal, resigned his post. So far, no new appointment has been made, but the present Minister of War, General Manuel A. Rodriguez, is in temporary charge of the Ministry of Marine.

There has been much speculation as to the motives which prompted the resignation. Vice-Admiral Casal simply made the following declaration:

"On leaving the Ministry, I have the satisfaction of leaving the Fleet in a healthy state of activity, which is the best means of maintaining the spirit of the Navy, its professional preparation, and the conservation of the valuable material which it has fallen to our lot to handle."

"The reasons why I leave the honorable post which I held in the Government, I have explained to the President of the Nation, with whom I am united by bonds of friendship which are in no way affected by my resignation which is due to circumstances with which the President has not been concerned, and have nothing to do with our personal relations."

In spite of the above statement, it has been ascertained from a contact that the President was a factor in the resignation of the Minister. During the latter part of the Minister's incumbency, he promised several of his classmates promotions. Among the number was Captain Carlos A. Braña, Chief of the Argentine Naval Police; when Captain Braña's name was proposed by the Minister of Marine for promotion, the President refused. Thereupon, the Minister resigned.

Fredrick D. Sharp
Copy to MA
From M.A. Argentina

Report No. 4792 December 15, 1933.

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RECEIVED BY STAFF
M. H. H. H.

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G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet

(c) Present Cabinet

Appointment of new Minister of Marine
(Captain Eleazar Videla)

On January 24th, the President appointed Captain Eleazar Videla as Minister of Marine. This officer is one of the very junior captains of the Navy, having been promoted in June of last year.

Feeling runs high in the Navy, as a result, among the older officers who were passed over; on the other hand, his juniors feel his appointment will bring good results, as he is a professionally qualified officer, well thought of by his confreres.

His appointment as Minister of Marine has forced the retirement of Admiral Enrique Plate and Admiral Felipe Eliass. Admiral Jorge Campos Urquiza and Admiral Aureliano Rey, should be retired in a few days.

Biographical data on the new Minister will be furnished in a revision of the present Cabinet, now being compiled.

Frederick Shop
Capt H. A. M. A.

From M.A. Argentina Report No. 4846 February 8, 1934.

G-2 Report

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MAR 30 1936

ARGENTINA (Political)
Subject: Diplomatic and Consular Service

(a) Present Assignment of Diplomatic and Consular Officials.

DOCTOR LUIS A. PODESTA COSTA HAS BEEN
APPOINTED UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS
WITH DUTIES AS JURIDICAL ADVISER.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 30 1936

A cablegram from Geneva reports that the League of Nations has appointed Doctor Luis A. Podesta Costa Under-Secretary General of the institution, with duties as juridical adviser. As is known, Doctor Podesta Costa is at present the Chief of the General Administration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The appointment of Doctor Podesta Costa constitutes an honorable distinction by reason of the importance of the function inherent to the post and because it implies recognition of his thorough knowledge of juridical questions of international character.

Doctor Podesta Costa, a public official of irreproachable conduct, thus receives a reward of lofty moral value for his earnest and persevering devotion to the study of arduous subjects on which he has specialized, prompted by a vocation for which he was decidedly qualified. His personality as an internationalist has acquired prestige in the course of his public activities since his graduation from the Faculty of Law and Social Science of Buenos Aires, in 1917, when he was awarded the Gold Medal.

In 1919 he was appointed professor of international law at the University of Buenos Aires; as from 1927 he was successively appointed Delegate to the Council of American Jurisconsults, assembled at Rio de Janeiro for the modification of international law; member of the Argentine Delegation to the Pan American Conference held at Havana; plenipotentiary delegate of the Argentine Republic to the Conference of Conciliation and Arbitration held at Washington; Counsellor of Embassy; Counsellor of the Argentine Delegation to the Disarmament Conference at Geneva; Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; plenipotentiary delegate to the Seventh Pan American Conference held in Montevideo; Adviser of the Faculty of Economic Sciences; plenipotentiary delegate to the Pan American Commercial Conference held in Buenos Aires; Secretary General Chaco Peace Conference Buenos Aires, 1935-36.

As a publicist, his activities have been no less intensive. He is the author of the following works: "Foreigners in the Civil War"; "Notes on Public International Law"; "The Responsibility of the State regarding damage caused on the person or the property of foreigners"; "Rules for the Recognition of 'de facto' Governments"; "Civil struggles and International Law"; "The foreigner and extraordinary taxes and forced loans".

Dr. Podesta Costa leaves March 3 to take up his new duties at Geneva.

Source: Press.



Frederick D. Sharp
Frederick D. Sharp
Capt., G.S.,
Military Attache.
March 6, 1936.

From M.A. Argentina

AIR MAIL

NO OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION
IN SERVICE JOURNALS.

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MAR 7 1938
OFFICE CHIEF OF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
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WAR DEPARTMENT
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G-2 Report.

ARGENTINA - Political.

Subject: Present Cabinet;biographical.
Diógenes Taboada, Minister of Interior.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. MAR 28 1938



Interior, Dr. Diógenes Taboada

The Minister of Interior heads the official family of the President in Argentina.

Dr. Diógenes Taboada who has been appointed to this post in the Ortiz Cabinet was born in San Luis fifty years ago. He is a lawyer by profession, and was one of the founders of the Anti-Personalist Radical party. He is the sole representative of that section of the Coalition in the Cabinet.

Dr. Taboada was a contributor to newspapers in his native province twenty years ago, and was also occupied with local politics. In 1920 he was elected deputy to the National Congress which he resigned a year later to devote himself to the law in San Luis.

He was later appointed Collector of Internal Revenue in 1925 but resigned the same year. In 1926 he was made president of the Postal Savings Bank which post he resigned two years later.

Since that time he has devoted himself to his law practice, and as attorney for the Buenos Aires-Pacific Railway.

His attitude toward the United States is not known at present.

Source: Press

Original & 4 copies airmailed Feb.19th.
Confirmation copy by steamer Feb.19th.

Lester Baker
Lester Baker, Col. Inf.,
Military Attaché.

From M/A Argentina.

Report No. 5728.

February 15, 1938.

AIR MAIL

NO OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION
IN SERVICE JOURNALS.

1938

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.

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G-2 Report.

ARGENTINA - Political.

Subject: Present Cabinet; biographical.
José M. Cantilo, Foreign Minister.

RECEIVED G-2 W.D.

MAR 23 1938



R. Exteriores, D. José M. Cantilo

Dr. José Maria Cantilo was born in the city of Buenos Aires in 1877. He was educated in Paris and in his early years was a writer on leading French journals. He was an author of a volume of French verse at that time.

He entered the diplomatic service of his country in 1906. He has served in various European and South American capitals but never in the United States. He has been Argentine representative at the League of Nations, and was a delegate to the Peace Conference at Buenos Aires in December 1936. He is at present Argentine Ambassador in Rome, to which post he was appointed in 1933.

His attitude toward the United States is not known at present.

Source: Embassy,
Press.

Lester Baker

Lester Baker, Col. Inf.,
Military Attaché.

Original & 4 copies airmailed Feb. 19th.
Confirmation copy by steamer Feb. 19th.

AIR MAIL

NO OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION
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CHIEF OF STAFF
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G-2 Report.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. MAR 8 1938

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ARGENTINA - Political.

Subject: Present Cabinet; Biographical.
Vice Admiral León Scasso, Minister
of Marine.



Marina, vicealmirante León Scasso

Vice Admiral León Scasso who occupies the portfolio of Secretary of the Navy in the new Government was born in the city of Buenos Aires April 11, 1872, and received his commission in the navy from the Escuela Naval Militar in 1900. He was a cadet on the second training cruise of the "Sarmiento". He became captain de fragata (commander) in 1918. Later he was chief of the Argentine naval mission to Europe. In 1926 he was made full captain and chief of the naval general staff.

As rear admiral in 1934 he was commander of the sea fleet (there are two fleets in the Argentine navy - sea and river). Later he was official commissioner to the coronation of George VI as vice admiral. He was a delegate to the International Hydrographic Conference in London, and the Argentine naval delegate to the World Disarmament Conference in Geneva in 1932.

His nickname in the navy is "puma".

Source: Press.

Lester Baker

Lester Baker, Col. Inf.,
Military Attaché.

Original & 4 copies airmailed Feb. 26th.
Confirmation copy by steamer Feb. 26th.

AIR MAIL

NO OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION
IN SERVICE JOURNALS

OFFICE CHIEF: MIL. INTEL. DIV.
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G-2 Report.

RECEIVED G/2 W. O. MAR 8 1938

ARGENTINA - Political.

Subject: Present Executive; biographical.
Dr. Ramon Castillo, vice-president.

Ref: Report #5621(3610-a) on Dr. Ortiz as presidential candidate.

Dr. Ramon S. Castillo who took the oath of office as vice president of Argentina on February 20, 1938, with Dr. Roberto Ortiz as president, was born in Catamarca 64 years ago.



Doctor Ramon S. Castillo

He came to Buenos Aires at an early age and secured his degree as doctor of jurisprudence and social science at the age of 23 years. He immediately began the practice of law and was soon elevated to the bench. He resigned his judgeship in 1918 and became a university professor, including the post of rector of the University of Buenos Aires Faculty of Law.

In politics he was a well-known conservative. In 1930 he was appointed by General Uriburu as interventor in the province of Tucuman during the provisional Government. His native province of Catamarca elected him to the National Senate in 1931 where he served until 1935.

He has held two posts in the Justo Cabinet, those of Minister of Justice and Public Instruction, and Interior.

His attitude toward the United States is not known at present.

Source: Press.

Lester Baker

Lester Baker, Col. Inf.,
Military Attache.

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From M/A Argentina.

Report No. 5734.

February 21, 1938.

AIR MAIL

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MAR 10 1938
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MIL. INTEL. DIV.
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RECEIVED G. 2 W. D. MAR 8 1938
ARGENTINA - Political.

Subject: Present Cabinet; Biographical.
Dr. Pedro Groppo, Finance Minister.



Hacienda, Dr. Pedro Groppo

The new finance minister, Dr. Pedro Groppo, was born in the city of Avellaneda, province of Buenos Aires. He is spoken of in the press as a "comparatively young man" but his age is not mentioned. He is called the only politician "on active service" in the Ortiz Cabinet.

He has held important political posts in his native province, including that of minister of finance for a short time. He is a leading member of the National Democratic party of the Province of Buenos Aires.

He has served several times as municipal councillor in Avellaneda, member of the Provincial Legislature, and twice elected Deputy in the National Legislature. He resigned to become a member of the Cabinet.

Source: Press.

Lester Baker
Lester Baker, Col. Inf.,
Military Attache.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

3,110-b.

G-2 Report.

RECEIVED G-2 W.D. MAR 8 1938

ARGENTINA - Political.

Subject: Present Cabinet; Biographical.
Jorge E. Coll, Minister of Justice
and Public Instruction.



J. e Instr. Pública, Dr. Jorge E. Coll

Dr. Jorge E. Coll, lawyer and judge, who has been named Minister of Public Instruction, was born in the Federal Capital May 7, 1882. He spent most of his professional life on the Bench and retired on a pension from the Appeal Court after serving as judge for many years in the criminal courts.

He is a well-known writer on legal subjects and has represented Argentina at various international congresses on law subjects. He is especially interested in juvenile delinquency and this interest is considered as a prime reason he was named to his present Cabinet post, where his ideas on juvenile training may be of benefit in the lower schools of the country.

Source: Press.

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G-2 Report.

RECEIVED G.2 W. D. MAR 8 1938

ARGENTINA - Political.

Subject: Present Cabinet; Biographical.
Jose Padilla, Minister of Agriculture.



Agricultura, Ing. José Padilla

Although a graduate civil engineer, Jose Padilla who has been named Minister of Agriculture in the Ortiz Cabinet, is better known as a businessman and farmer, although he is also a professor of engineering at the University of Tucuman, and also instructor in algebra.

He was born in Tucuman in 1883 and graduated in engineering in 1906. He did not practice his profession for long and became more interested in farming. He is most interested in sugar cultivation and is owner of a large plantation in Tucuman.

His appointment to the Cabinet was in recognition of his leadership in agriculture rather than for political reasons.

Source: Press.

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3,110-b.

G-2 Report.

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ARGENTINA - Political.

Subject: Present Cabinet; Biographical.
Manuel R. Alvarado, Minister of
Public Works.



O. Públicas, D. Manuel R. Alvarado

Manuel R. Alvarado is one of the two Ministers who held their portfolios throughout the six years of President Justo's mandate, and is the only one of the Justo Ministers to be named in the Ortiz Cabinet, and to the same post, that of Minister of public works.

He was born in Salta, January 28, 1882, and went into politics soon after leaving the university. He was deputy in the provincial legislature from 1908 to 1918, finance minister of the province, professor in the National College of Salta, and elected National Deputy in 1922 and again in 1926.

During the provisional government he was named intervenor in the Province of Buenos Aires. He was appointed to the Justo Cabinet February 20, 1932. Besides carrying on the duties of his own Department he has been acting minister in other departments, carrying on the work of Interior during the latter days of the Justo regime.

He is well known to have conservative leanings but for several years has not been active in politics.

Source: Press.

Lester Baker
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3,110-b.

ARGENTINA - Political.

RECEIVED G/2 W. O. JUN 22 1938

Subject: Present Cabinet; Biographical.
General Carlos D. Marquez, Minister
of War.



Guerra, general Carlos D. Márquez

General Carlos D. Marquez, Minister of War in the Cabinet of President Ortiz, was born in the national capital October 8, 1885. He entered Colegio Militar (West Point) March 11, 1902, and was commissioned a sub-lieutenant of artillery December 26, 1905. All his service with troops has been in the artillery arm.

He was made a lieutenant July 8, 1908, and first lieutenant January 13, 1911. His captaincy came January 12, 1915, and he was promoted to major December 31, 1919. December 31, 1923, he was made lieutenant colonel, and a colonel December 31, 1931. On December 31, 1936, he was commissioned brigadier general.

General Marquez is a graduate of the School of Fire and of the General Staff School. He has served on the General Staff, as an instructor in the General Staff School, assistant director of the Military Aviation School, secretary general of the State Railways, inspector of artillery, and on the board for purchase of war material in Europe. Returning to Buenos Aires from this last assignment on October 1, 1937, he was made Director General of Personnel where he served until being named Minister of War on February 20, 1938.

General Marquez is quite friendly to the United States.

Source: Ministry of War.

Lester Baker

Lester Baker, Col. Inf.,
Military Attaché.

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MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT

RESTRICTED.

Country Reported On

Subject Rear Admiral Mario Fincati, Minister of Marine I.G. No. 5990.

Brief Descriptive Title

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Official.

Summarization of Report

When Required



Contralmirante Mario Fincati

Rear Admiral Mario Fincati, commander of the Sea Fleet, was named Minister of Marine in the new Argentine Cabinet formed September 1, 1940.

He entered the Naval Academy in 1902 and reached the grade of Rear Admiral in 1936. He has served as Naval Attache to Brazil and to Great Britain, was chief of the Naval Commission in London in 1935 and headed the Naval Commission in Europe in 1938.

Rear Admiral Fincati speaks Spanish and English, is forceful, strong, agreeable and popular in the Navy where he wields considerable influence.

Although he has had no service in the United States he is friendly toward it, and as to other nations he is decidedly pro-British. He is a Catholic, married and has three daughters.

He is reported to have had the support of both President Ortiz and ex-President Alvear in his appointment to the Cabinet.

M. A. Devine, Jr.
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Major, G. S.,
Military Attache.

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MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.

RESTRICTED.

Country Reported On

Subject Dr. Miguel J. Culaciati, Minister of Interior. I.G. No. 5990

Brief Descriptive Title

Source and Degree of Reliability:
Official.

Summarization of Report
When Reported



Dr. Miguel Culaciati

Dr. Miguel J. Culaciati, appointed Minister of the Interior on September 1, 1940, is not an outstanding political figure. He was born in Buenos Aires in 1881 but has spent most of his life in Rosario where he was elected mayor twice, and has served as National Deputy in the administrations of Presidents Irigoyen and Alvear. He is a Radical Anti-Personalist in politics.

He is married and has one son, 4 years old. He has never seen service in the United States and probably has no fixed attitude toward that country, or any other.

M. A. Devine, Jr.
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MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.

RESTRICTED
Subject Dr. Frederico Pinedo, Minister of Finance. Country Reported On Argentina.
I.G. No. 5990.

Source and Degree of Reliability:
Official.

Summarization of Report
When Required



Dr. Frederico Pinedo

Dr. Frederico Pinedo, Minister of Finance in the Cabinet named on September 1, 1940, was born in Buenos Aires April 24, 1895, is a lawyer by profession and an able economist, highly respected. He belonged to the Independent Socialist Party, but is now considered Independent.

Dr. Pinedo is agreeable, forceful and has a strong personality. He speaks Spanish, English, French and German. He has served as National Deputy for the Federal Capital and was Minister of Finance under President Justo 1933-35.

He is friendly toward the United States but has never served there. He is strongly anti-Nazi and anti-fascist. He is a Catholic, married and has two sons.

He was instrumental in the reorganization of Argentina's finances including the creation of the Central Bank.

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MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina

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Country Reported On

Subject Dr. Salvador Oria, Minister of Public Works.

I.G. No. 5990.

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Official

Summarization of Report
When Required



Dr. Salvador Oria

The Ministry of Public Works in the new Argentine Cabinet has been given to Dr. Salvador Oria who is an Independent in politics, a Catholic, married, and has two sons. He was born at San Nicolas, Province of Buenos Aires, July 4, 1883, speaks Spanish and French perfectly and is an honest, painstaking and respected scholar. He enjoys considerable prestige but his political influence is probably limited.

He is a close friend of ex-President Justo, has had two appointments in the Ministry of Finance and was Argentine delegate in the Financial Committee of the League of Nations, also in the wheat and disarmament conferences of the League. He is director in several financial institutions and President of the National Roads Administration.

Dr. Oria has never served in the United States and probably has no fixed attitude toward that country.

M. A. Devine, Jr.
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MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT

Subject General Juan N. Tonazzi, Minister of War
Brief Descriptive Title

Country Reported On
I.G. No. 5990

Source and Degree of Reliability: Official	
Summarization of Report When Required	

General Juan N. Tonazzi

Brigadier General Juan N. Tonazzi who became Minister of War when he took the oath of office on September 9, 1940, reached the rank of general officer only on December 31, 1939. He took up the portfolio of the War Ministry from commander of the 3rd Division of the Argentine Army.

He was born May 8, 1888, and entered the Military College April 26, 1904, graduating four years later as Sub-Lieutenant of Artillery.

He went to the General Staff in March 1919, and in 1925 was sent to Rome as Military Attache, and later served in the same capacity in Uruguay. As Lieutenant Colonel he served as Secretary Adjutant to General Justo when the latter was Minister of War, and a.d.c. to General Justo when he was President of Argentina.

At various times he has been connected with the Military College as an instructor, sub-Director, and Director.

His attitude toward the United States is not known at this writing. That and other details will be reported as soon as available.

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Subject Dr. Amadeo y Videla, Minister of Agriculture I.G. No. 5990
Brief Descriptive Title

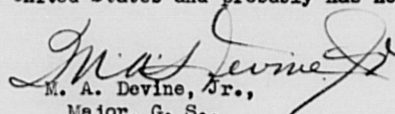
Source and Degree of Reliability: Official	
Summarization of Report <small>When Required</small>	

Dr. Daniel Amadeo Videla

Dr. Daniel Amadeo y Videla, new Minister of Agriculture, is a National Democrat(Conservative) in politics and this post to which he was appointed on September 1, 1940, is the highest he has ever held. He was born in Buenos Aires, May 21, 1899. He is an able and respected politician of Coronel Suarez, province of Buenos Aires, where he served as mayor before being elected a National Deputy for the 1936-1940 term.

His influence is probably limited to a rural district southwest of the Federal Capital. His personality is very agreeable. He is married, a Catholic and has two children, a son and a daughter. His recreation is polo and he has been vice president of the Argentine Polo Association.

He has never served in the United States and probably has no fixed attitude toward that country.


M. A. Devine, Jr.,
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MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.
Country Reported On

Subject Dr. Guillermo Rothe, Minister of Justice and Public Instruction. I.G. No. 5990.

Source and Degree of Reliability: Official.
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Summarization of Report When Required	
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Dr. Guillermo Rothe

The new Minister of Justice and Public Instruction is one of the older members of the Cabinet appointed September 1, 1940. He was born in Totoral, Province of Córdoba, December 10, 1879, and has been a university professor, judge and attorney general for his native province; he served two terms as National Deputy from Córdoba and at the time of his present appointment was Senator from Córdoba for the term 1932-1941. He once before held the same Cabinet portfolio, 1930-1932 in the Uriburu administration.

He is a consistent Conservative in politics, is a widower, is a golfer. He was founder and several times president of the Rotary Club of Córdoba. He has never served in the United States and his attitude toward that country is unknown.

At the time of his appointment to the Cabinet he was president of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs in the Senate.

M. A. Devine, Jr.
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MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.....
Country Reported On

Subject Reported Attitude of Minister of War..... I.G. No. 5990.....
Brief Descriptive Title

Source and Degree of Reliability: Personal Contacts. Reliable.

Summarization of Report When Required
In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headlines Here

(Ref. G-2 Rep't. #6332, I.G. 5990, Sept. 10, 1940).

General Juan N. Tonazzi's family on his father's side was of Italian extraction.

This officer studied at France's Ecole de Guerre and at that time was impressed by French methods, etc.

Until France capitulated, he was rather pro-French but since that time has not been known to express any sentiments other than "Nationalistic Argentina". He is said to be committed to a policy of making Argentina independent of all countries for war supplies.

It is generally believed that General Tonazzi received his Cabinet appointment through the influence of General Justo(Ex-President) and is definitely known to be a 100%"Justo man". Justo is said to be a rabid Argentine nationalist.

It is reported that General Tonazzi is most favorably impressed with what he has seen and heard of the United States.

He has the reputation of having kept clear of army and civil politics throughout his army career.

His service reputation is that of a very competent officer, a man without enemies.

M. A. Devine, Jr.
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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
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MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina.

Subject Dr. Enrique Ruiz Guiñazu, Foreign Minister. I.G. No. 5990

Source and Degree of Reliability:
Official. RECEIVED G/2 W. D. MAR 22 1941

Summarization of Report
When Required



Dr. ENRIQUE RUIZ GUIÑAZU

To fill the vacancy caused by the recent resignation of Dr. Julio A. Roca, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Culture, Dr. Enrique Ruiz Guiñazu was named by Executive Decree on March 13, 1941. Dr. Guiñazu at present represents Argentina at the Vatican, and prior to that was Minister to Switzerland. He has accepted the appointment by cable.

Dr. Guiñazu was born in Buenos Aires, October 14, 1884, and has devoted much of his life to the legal profession. For a number of years he was attorney and director in legal affairs for the National Mortgage Bank. In 1931 he was named Argentine Minister to Switzerland, and in 1935 permanent delegate to the Society of Nations. Four years later he was appointed Ambassador to the Vatican which position he now holds.

He has served as Argentine delegate to many international conferences in Geneva. He is the author of a number of books of diversified subjects including "The Tradition of America", "Lord Strathford and the May Revolution", "The Indian Magistracy".

M. A. Devins, Jr.
M. A. Devins, Jr.,
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MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina

Country Reported On

Subject Dr. Carlos Alberto Acevedo, Finance Minister

I. G. No. 5990

Brief Descriptive Title

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Official.

RECEIVED MAR 22 1941

Summarization of Report

When Required



Dr. CARLOS ALBERTO
ACEVEDO

Dr. Carlos Alberto Acevedo was named Minister of Finance by an executive decree issued by Acting President Castillo on March 13, 1940. He fills the post which has been vacant since Dr. Pinedo resigned some weeks ago following the failure of his attempt to persuade the Radical Party leaders to join with the government and pass needed legislation.

Dr. Acevedo was born in Buenos Aires December 2, 1889, and is a graduate in law, 1913. At the time of his appointment as Finance Minister he was the head of the Transport Corporation of the City of Buenos Aires, but some years ago he was minister of finance during the Justo regime. He has been an official of the Bank of the Nation in various capacities since 1933 and in 1936 was made vice-chairman, he also is a director in the Central Bank.

He is the author of several financial books and also, in collaboration with Dr. Miguel Angel Cárcano, of "Political Institutions of the Anglo-Saxon Countries" (in Spanish).

M. A. Devine, Jr.
M. A. Devine, Jr.,
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INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT

Argentina.

Country Reported On

Subject Dr. Enrique Ruiz Guinazu, Foreign Minister,

I.G. No. 5990

Brief Descriptive Title

Source and Degree of Reliability:

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Summarization of Report

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Dr. ENRIQUE RUIZ GUINAZU

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